86. Roads.

Mr. Edwin Vincent (Member, the Mundakayam Planters' Association) said that there was a road—4 miles long—from the Wallardi Estate to the 34th mile of the Kottayam–Kumili road. He requested that a grant-in-aid might be sanctioned for the up-keep of the road.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

87. The Kodimatha landing stage at Kottayam.

Mr. J. S. Wilkie (Member, the Central Travancore Planters' Association) said that Kottayam had, during the last few years, grown rapidly, owing to the planting industries of Peermade and Mundakayam, and that the traffic of both the above-named places had increased and was still increasing. For some considerable time back, the accommodation for landing and handling the estate goods had been inadequate. There were at present 4 important landing places, the principal of which were the Cutcherry, Kodimatha and Market landings, and during the busy months, the congestion of traffic at those three landings was beyond description, and want of storage space led to heavy loss and damage to goods and great inconvenience to the town. The Cutcherry landing was the principal one dealing with the steam-boat passenger traffic and goods for the local merchants, but the space available there was insufficient. If goods and produce were diverted from that landing to the Kodimatha landing and sufficient space given for dealing with them there, it would be a great boon to the planting community, to the travelling public and more especially to the town of Kottayam. The Member, therefore, requested that the Kodimatha landing stage might be enlarged. If that be done, the Cutcherry and the Market landings would be relieved. Stores could be built to house the goods and produce, so that they could be handled during wet weather without fear of damage, and the roadway, now continually blocked with carts and bullocks, would be kept clear.

Dewan's reply.—The Chief Engineer will be asked to report about this.

V. PUBLIC HEALTH.—T. I. C. AND MEDICAL RELIEF.

(I) Town Improvement Committees.

88. Supply of good drinking water to the town of Nagercoil and the improvement of the system of drainage in the town.

Mr. V. Sankaranarayana Iyer, B. A., B. L. (Member, T. I. C., Nagercoil) offered, on behalf of the people of the Southern Division, their warm appreciation of the several benevolent acts of the Government conducive to their welfare. While the Government were responsive to all real grievances and were doing all that was practicable towards redressing them, he was not a little surprised when he heard the other day the Member for the Agastiswaram taluk levelling unjust and unmerited aspersions against the Dewan's enlightened and vigorous administration. But when they considered the quarter from which the remarks came, a quarter from which a large debt of gratitude was ever owing, the people felt an emphatic protest to be most essential. He felt that he voiced forth the sense of the Assembly when he said that the utterances of that Member were received with the utmost grief and resentment. While they were aware that the art of governing a country was becoming more and more difficult, and, in Travancore, it was in no way less, they realized that the Dewan had guided the destinies of the State, during the last six years, most successfully.

Proceeding to the subject, the Member urged the necessity for the supply of good drinking water to the town of Nagercoil, as any delay in the matter would be beset with serious and dangerous consequences. The town contained a population of about 30,000 people. For the last several years, cholera had been an annual visitant. The mortality from cholera was alarmingly increasing, being 243 in 1088.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly